



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

STOP 0249 - Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20250-0249

MARCH 2006

NOTICE TO THE TRADE
GROUND BEEF SUPPLIERS
SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAMS

This is to notify all ground beef suppliers, potential ground beef suppliers and other interested parties of changes in products designated for Small Business Set-Aside Program in the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) ground beef purchase program. Effective July 1, 2006, AMS will make the following product changes in its Small Business Set-Aside programs:

- Fine Ground Beef (10 pound chubs) purchases -- will be designated as a 100 percent Small Business Set-Aside Program.
- Coarse Ground Beef purchases -- will be designated for Full and Open Competition with applicable Hubzone Price Preferences and 8(a) Small Disadvantage Business participation.
- All other fresh and frozen beef purchase programs will remain unchanged.

AMS is making the program changes to better serve the needs of recipient agencies. If questions arise or additional information is needed on the AMS ground beef purchase program, please contact Duane Williams, Contracting Officer, on 202/720-2650.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William T. Sessions", followed by the date "3/8/06" written in a similar style.

William T. Sessions
Associate Deputy Administrator
Livestock and Seed Program